

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 00607 131202Z

17

ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 H-01 INR-05 L-01 PM-03 SP-02

PA-01 PRS-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SAM-01

SAJ-01 SR-02 ORM-01 ACDA-10 SCCT-01 IO-03 /061 W

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P 131130Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1147

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 0607

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR GR TU CY

SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH GREEK AMBASSADOR

1. GREEK AMBASSADOR DOUNTAS CALLED ON ME FEBRUARY 12 BEFORE RETURNING TO ATHENS FOR A FEW DAY'S CONSULTATION. HE TERMED THE CLERDIES-DENKTASH TALKS "CRITICALLY ILL" AND SAID THERE COULD BE NO ALTERNATIVE TO INTERNATIONALIZATION IF SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS HAD NOT BEEN ACHIEVED BY END OF FEBRUARY. INTERNATIONALIZATION AND INVOLVEMENT OF RUSSIANS WOULD PRODUCE NO RESULT, BUT NONE LIKELY ANYWAY AND GREEK CYPRIOTS WERE INSISTENT THAT THIS COURSE BE TRIED.

2. DOUNTAS SAID GOT HAD BROUGHT THIS TURN OF EVENTS ON ITSELF. IF IT HAD GIVEN CLERIDES SOMETHING ON REFUGEE RETURN, WHEN HE WAS IN CHARGE AND WHEN GREECE WAS BACKING HIM 100 PERCENT, ARCHBISHOP COULD NOT HAVE RETURNED TO CYPRUS KNOWING HE COULD DO NO BETTER.

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PAGE 02 NICOSI 00607 131202Z

3. ON PAST WEEKEND'S THREAT OF MILITARY ACTION BY TURKEY,

DOUNTAS SAID HE HAD BELIEVED FROM THE FIRST THAT TROOP MOVEMENTS WERE PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE DESIGNED NOT TO LET GREEKS FORGET THAT TURKEY HAD THE UPPER HAND.

4. ON RADICALIZATION OF GREEK CYPRIOT ENVIRONMENT, DOUNTAS COMMENTED THAT OWING TO FRUSTRATION OVER TOTAL LACK OF PROGRESS GENERALLY AND TOTAL IMPASSE ON REFUGEE RETURN, SPECIFICALLY, GREEK CYPRIOTS ARE THINKING LESS AND LESS IN RATIONAL TERMS, E. G. MODERATES WHO TWO MONTHS AGO SUPPORTED CLERIDES-DENKTASH NEGOTIATION AND A PEACEFUL APPROACH TO SOLUTION ARE NOW SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING FORMATION OF ARMED TERRORIST GROUPS. I MADE THE OBVIOUS COMMENT THAT THIS WAS A GOOD WAY TO LOSE THE REST OF THE ISLAND TO TURKEY. DOUNTAS REPLIED THAT MANY GREEK CYPRIOTS NO LONGER CARE.

5. I TOLD DOUNTAS THAT AS RESULT OF JUST COMPLETED FIELD TRIP TO MORPHOU AREA, I HAD RELUCTANTLY COME TO CONCLUSION THAT THAT AREA NOW PROBABLY NO LONGER NEGOTIABLE (IF INDEED IT EVER HAD BEEN). MY VISUAL OBSERVATION HAD CONFIRMED THAT TOWN OF MORPHOU IS NOW AS SOLIDLY TURKIFIED AS KYRENIA. DOUNTAS WAS VERY DISTURBED, SAYING THAT THIS MADE THE CRITICAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A SOLUTION AND NO SOLUTION. WITHOUT SUBSTANTIAL REFUGEE RETURN TO MORPHOU, THERE WOULD NOT BE ENOUGH RETURN TO PERMIT ANY GREEK CYPRIOT OR MAINLAND GOVERNMENT TO SIGN ON.

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